

Calendar No. 412

89TH CONGRESS }
1st Session }

SENATE

{
REPORT
No. 427

THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COAST GUARD

JULY 9 (legislative day, JULY 8), 1965.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MAGNUSON, from the Committee on Commerce, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S.J. Res. 83]

The Committee on Commerce, to whom was referred the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 83) to authorize the President to issue a proclamation commemorating the 175th anniversary, on August 4, 1965, of the founding of the U.S. Coast Guard at Newburyport, Mass., having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the joint resolution do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE RESOLUTION

The purpose of the resolution is to authorize the President of the United States to issue a proclamation commemorating the 175th anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Coast Guard.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

For 175 years the U.S. Coast Guard has been serving this country with distinction. Established August 4, 1790, by the First Congress under sponsorship of the first Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, the Revenue Marine, as it was then known, was assigned to put down smuggling in the young Republic. Shortly after its inception, the new fleet of 10 small cutters went into action against French vessels which were then harassing our merchant ships.

As a member of this Nation's Armed Forces, the Coast Guard has achieved an enviable record in our country's conflicts. In World War II, the Coast Guard engaged in convoy duty and antisubmarine patrol, manned transports and combat landing craft, and rescued thousands of survivors. Recently, 17 small cutters departed for South Vietnam to assist the U.S. Navy in patrolling the coast of that country.

Over the years the Coast Guard's work has broadened steadily until today it is our chief agency for promoting maritime safety and marine

law enforcement. Its duties include an intensive merchant marine safety program, maintenance of a network of more than 40,000 navigation aids, search and rescue, oceanographic research, port security, ocean weather and fishery patrols, and operation of the International Ice Patrol. Its 31,500 officers and enlisted men are serving around the world, in the Arctic and Antarctic, the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the Caribbean, and the Mediterranean.

The Coast Guard has come a long way since those first small cutters were launched a century and three quarters ago. But its spirit is still summed up in its motto: "Semper Paratus."

The committee is of the opinion that this resolution has a meritorious purpose and accordingly recommends favorable consideration of the resolution.

COSTS

The resolution will not call for the expenditure of any Federal funds.

AGENCY COMMENTS

The only comment received was that of the General Accounting Office. It follows:

COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, June 8, 1965.

B-156857.

HON. WARREN G. MAGNUSON,
*Chairman, Committee on Commerce,
U.S. Senate.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN; By letter dated May 24, 1965, you requested our comments on Senate Joint Resolution 83, 89th Congress.

The stated purpose of this resolution is to authorize the President to issue a proclamation commemorating the 175th anniversary, on August 4, 1965, of the founding of the U.S. Coast Guard at Newburyport, Mass. We have no special information as to the desirability of the proposed legislation and, therefore, make no comments regarding its consideration.

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH CAMPBELL,
Comptroller General of the United States.

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